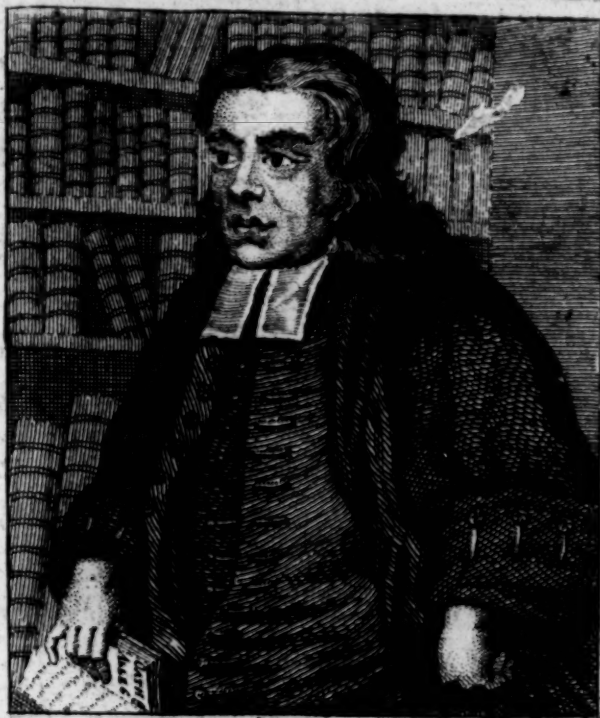


IMPARTIAL
MEMORIALS
OF THE
LIFE and WRITINGS
OF

Thomas Hearne, M. A.

By several HANDS.

Hearnus behold! in Closet close y-pent,



Who hath preserv'd the *Dulness* of the *past*.

Of sober Face, with learned Dust besprent;

To *future* Ages will his *Dulness* last;

L O N D O N :

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LETTERS sent to Mr. CURLL.

June the 30th, 1735.

S I R,

AS you intend to publish the Life of that eminent Antiquary Mr. *Thomas Hearne*, it is to be wished that it might be compleat and just; not in that Manner as it was set out about four Years ago, by a *Chaplain* of *All-Souls* College, which was intended rather as a *Sneer* upon Mr. *Hearne** than to give us an impartial Account of his Life and Writings.

Among the Manuscripts he has left, is A DIARY of his LIFE, inter-

* The Gentlemen herein hinted at, is the Reverend Mr. *Bilson*, who published Mr. *Hearne*'s Vindication of taking the Oath of *Allegiance*; the Preface to which is so far from *Sneer*, that it contains many judicious *Remarks*, and is a full Detection of our Antiquary's *gross* Errors.

sperfed

ii INTRODUCTION.

spersed with many curious Passages, Characters, and his *whole* Conversation and *Correspondence* till within a few Days of his Death.

I am, Sir, Your Humble Servant,

P. Q.

July 8, 1735.

SIR,

I Received yours much too late, and after a solemn Promise, to the Gentleman you mentioned, not to communicate aught without Permission relating to him: This I could not but comply with (as yourself well know the Friendship and long Correspondence between us) so that I must not contribute, but if called upon by any who may hereafter do him the Honour designed by you, as I hope nothing else is, or that any Thing mean, trifling, or injurious will be handed into the World.

Your, &c.^t

A. B.

INTRODUCTION. iii

July 10, 1735.

SIR,

AS to the Gentleman's Character you intend to attack, I must desire to be excused, if I don't concern myself: He is dead, and has answered elsewhere, and how far his Censures are just, I know not; he cannot now defend himself: *De Mortuis nil, nisi bonum.* As to the Gentleman to whom the MSS are left, I will not encourage you, or any Body, to apply to him. By the WILL, you'll find he has Directions from the Testator as to that Affair, and he is a Man of too nice Honour not to strictly adhere to them; so that all manner of Application, there, will be ineffectual.

Yours, &c.

A. B.

Our Correspondent A. B. is very tenacious of the Antiquary's Character. We hope he will not find any Thing *mean, trifling,*

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trifling, or injurious; unless doing Justice * may be mistakenly so deemed.

As to the good old Caution he gives §, it were to be wished that Mr. *Hearne* had had more Regard to it himself, but neither he, nor his Predecessor *Wood*, had any the least Regard either for the Characters of the *Living*, or the Memory of the *Dead*; the Writings of both being over loaded with Calumny.

A Catalogue of Mr. *Hearne*'s Works is annexed to most of the Books he has published; among which we cannot point out any Thing useful, unless it be his *Ductor Historicus*, and his *Index* to the Earl of *Clarendon*'s History.

PHILALETHES.

(*) To that truly fine Gentleman *Walter Moyle*, Esq;
§ *De mortuis*, &c. instead of which, Mr. *Hearne* cries out, *Ad plures abiit*.

THE



THE
L I F E

O F

Mr. Thomas Hearne.



H A T He, may never be forgotten, who has raked the Repositories of Antiquity, and been indefatigable in fetching Learning from Places where many would not have sought after it; a few Memorials of his Life, and some Observations on his Writings, will, we hope, redound to his Credit.

In the Parish-Register of *Abbots*, or
White-Waltham, a Village about six Miles
B distant

distant from *Windsor*, it stands upon Record that he was baptized by the Name of *Thomas*, Son of *George Hearne* and *Edith* his Wife, on the Eleventh of *June*, 1678. His Father, we have been informed, was a considerable Antiquary of the lower Class; and was Sacristan of that Parochial Church to the Day of his Death. So that Mr. *Hearne*, in all probability, received his great Propensity to the Study of Antiquity as it were *ex Traduce*.

It is agreed on all Hands that his early Inclination to Letters first discovered itself amongst the *Tumuli* of his own Parish Church-yard; over which he was observed to be continually plodding almost as soon as he was Master of the English Alphabet. To this soon after adding a little Writing he grew impatient after Antiquity: resolved never to be unprepared for collecting Materials that might be serviceable hereafter, and accordingly stuffed his Diary (which was his constant Companion) with every Occurrence worthy his Notice. This he prudently foresaw would turn to a good Account in his more advanced Years; Vacancies in his future Labours might be supplied with a Story from his Journal; and tho' it might not be

be very methodical, or perhaps not at all to his Purpose in Hand, yet the Design of preserving it might sufficiently justify its Publication.

This was the advantageous Method he pursued all his Life Time: He copied *Monuments and Inscriptions; Original Letters and venerable Ballads of Antiquity; Stories of honest John Ross and Peter Langtoft; Robert of Brune and St. Thomas Cantilupe*: Men! who had not Mr. Hearne lived, might have lain for ever buried in an ignoble Obscurity. The Preservation of these Things may be ascribed to his *Collectedanea*, which are now swelled to a prodigious Size.

It is difficult indeed to determine to what particular Number these MSS Volumes are now grown, because they are kept with as strict and sacred a Care from the Eyes of Mankind as the (*) Oracles of the *Sibylls* deposited in the Capitol. The highest Number we have yet seen quoted by himself is cxxiii, in his Preface to the

(*) See Dr. Prideaux's Account of those choice *Leaves* in the 485 page of Vol. 2. of his *Connection*: where we find that none but the Keepers of them were ever suffered to peruse them, and They only upon particular Exigencies.

(*) Annals of *John of Trokelowe*. So that notwithstanding there can be no certain Calculation made of an exact Number, yet there is some room for a Conjecture that they are not fewer than five Hundred.

Several Passages there are in his (†) xcv Volume which enough convince us of his not being then arrived at Years of Discretion, notwithstanding he had filled so many of them: If therefore his Industry was as great in his advanced Years as in his Youth (which we believe all will allow when they consider the uninterrupted State of Health he all along enjoyed) we think we may be allowed not to have exceeded the Number, but rather to have fallen short of it. This however we only took Notice of to shew what an *inestimable* Loss the World must sustain, should this *prodigious* Treasure perish with its *Collector*.

This Digression we hope the Reader will pardon; and so, without dwelling on the first eight or ten Years of his Life, we shall follow him to the School, where we

(*) P. 29. (†) *Reb. de Glouc.* Vol. 2. p. 638.

are told he laid the Foundation of his future Greatness.

It was happy for him as well as the *World* that he fell into the Hands of a good (*) Master at *Bray School*: It being a melancholly Thing to consider how many great Genii have either been cramped or utterly spoiled thro' the Ignorance or Indolence of trifling Pedagogues. Here he soon mastered the Rudiments of Learning, and by a gradual but speedy Progress became acquainted with the *Roman* and *Greek Historians*.

Thus encouraged by the Pregnancy of his *Parts*, his assiduous Industry and Proficiency in School Learning, his liberal Friend † thought them sufficient Motives to the Continuance of his Bounty, and sent him accordingly in the Year MDCXCV (with a considerable Addition) to the University of *Oxford*. Fortune here again (if we are rightly informed) seemed particularly fond

(*) Mr. Gibson, Author of the excellent *Grammatical Exceptions against the late Alterations made in the common Accidence and Grammar*.

(†) Mr. Cherry of *Shottesbroke, Berks*. This Gentleman paid for Mr. Hearne's Education, which he has gratefully acknowledged.

fond of him: The Vicar (*) of the Parish where his Benefactor lived was at that Time a considerable Tutor in *Edmund Hall*, and in the Study of Antiquity most eminently remarkable. Thro' this Gentleman's Means he was admitted into this Place, and used more like a Son than barely a Pupil by him.

A few Years being spent in Academical Learning, by the Help of which he had improved his Propensity to Antiquity; He gave the World a Specimen of his future Designs. In the Year M D C C II (but seven Years from his Matriculation) he published a copious Index of the principal Passages in Sir Roger L'Estrange's Translation of *Josephus*. Which seems to have met with so good a Reception, that the same was reprinted not long after in an Octavo Edition. In M D C C III he obliged the World with (or at least occasioned the Publication of) the *Reliquiae Bodleianae*, or some genuine Remains of Sir Thomas Bodley; adding the same Year, to his other Labours, *Pliny's Epistles* and *Panegyric*, with various Lectures and Annotations; not to mention his Edition of *Eutropius*, with

(*) *White Kennet*, M. A. afterwards Bp. of *Peterborough*.
many

many other Things published all in this Year. In MDCCIV and V came out that laborious Work called *Ductor Historicus*, in two Volumes, 8vo, being a short System of Universal History, and an Introduction to the Study of it.

It would be almost endless to expatiate particularly on his Labours, or to give an Account of the Product of every Year; for which Reason we must refer the Reader to his own printed Catalogue of them, inserted at the End of every Book, he published, since they became numerous.

During this Period however it is observable that his *Vindication* of Those who take the *Oath* of *Allegiance*, was written, which loudly speaks in the Behalf of Mr. *Hearne's* Industry, and shews the early Application he had made to Books. The many just Quotations in it from sacred History as well as Profane, from Acts of Parliament and Lawyers of the greatest Name, we flatter ourselves will excuse our writing a Panegyrick, and its Author's Name recommend it enough to the Perusal of Mankind.

In MDCCIII, on the 3d of *July*, he took the Degree of Master of Arts, and had

no sooner compleated it, but the Eyes of the whole University were upon him : His Industry was almost become a Proverb, and (notwithstanding a little Surlineſſ of Temper, which it is thought he brought into the World with him, and which probably increaſed with his ſevere Studies) he met with Friendſhip in a great many, and much Reſpect from all Men.

I ſhould have mentioned indeed before this, the Encouragement he had from the (*) Head Librarian, who (acquainted with his Diligence) made him Underkeeper of the *Bodleian* Library. There he had Room enough for his Inquiſitive Genius to range in; of which he made ſo good a Uſe, that the Product of every Year afterwards may juſtly be aſcribed to the Acquiſitions he had made in this Treafure of Learning.

After ſome Years ſpent in this Way, of printing *Indexes*, *Itineraries* and *Colleſtanea*, his Labours met with an additional Reward; being on the 19th of Jan. 1714-15. elected *Archetypographus* of the University and ſuperior *Beadle* of Civil Law. (†) This we find him acknowledging with Pleaſure and Humility to be an Honour, which

(*) Dr. *Huſon* Principal of St. *Mary-Hall*. (†) *Leland*.
Colleſt. Vol. 1. p. 56.

he took the first ' Opportunity of menti-
' oning to the World, on purpose that his
' Gratitude might be made known to
' Posterity. And notwithstanding he was
' conscious to himself that the University
' Favours were conferred upon One who
' every way undeserved them, in respect
' of Learning, and other requisite Quali-
' fications, yet still he had very good
' Reason for accepting them upon this
' Account amongst others, as they sea-
' sonably assisted and relieved one of their
' Members who had for many Years led
' an obscure and retired Life, and was at
' that Time reduced to a necessitous Con-
' dition, thro' the great Expence he had
' been at in carrying on many public
' Designs.'

In this happy Posture of Affairs one would have imagined he might have been easy and satisfied : But neither Friendship nor Preferment could put a Stop to his Enquiry after *Truth*. Soon after this Promotion he acquired better Reasons (to *Himself* at least) for Non-Compliance with the Oaths which were necessary for *keeping* it, than he had before for the *Acceptance* of it ; and accordingly resigned that advantageous Post, which the University had so lately conferred on him, as inconsistent

sistent with his *Conscience*, or at least, his *Manner of Thinking*.

Ever since he steadily adhered to the Principles of a Nonjuror; spent his Time in annually obliging the World with something relating to the History of *England*, or with some other Affairs as they accidentally have fallen in his Way, both for the Benefit and Pleasure of Mankind. Here we think he might have been left still labouring at the Oar, deserving the Favour and Compliments of the Learned upon his yearly Revival of something (as it were) lost to every one but himself. (*) *Singulis ferre Annis Cl. Hearnius aliquid e MSS. eruere quod ad Historiam Anglicanum spectat, idque Præfationibus ac Appendicibus prolixis sæpe longe aliena complexis sive ornare sive onerare.* — (†) *Hearnius doctus Antiquarius & Industriæ summæ. Hic Talpa eruditus egregia e Tenebris eruit; multum scalpsit, corrasit, & occultus ipse Literatura Cumulos, Naso satis acuto, in Lucem edidit. — Hearnium alterum verbis mutilatis totum incumbentem, fortiter, obstinate, contractis Superciliis infixum, & Temporibus suis hoc e Saxo Ingenii sui Vi*

(*) *Acta Eruditorum Anno. 1729. p. 182.*

(†) *Ed. Young. Orat. Codrington. p. 26.*

vel Duritie potius, Lumen elidentem videor videre. These Passages how much, soever they may look like Ridicule to Men who deal only in *Polite Learning*, are still undoubted Confirmations of Mr. Hearne's Industry, and will ever be thought so by Persons of deeper Penetration.

Amongst many Qualities remarkable in him, his strict and unshaken *Integrity* is none of the least. No Regard for any one's Merit could ever prevail with him to connive at their Errors: He chose rather to break off the strictest Friendship, than to be led aside by it in his Search after Truth; Nay his very *Gratitude*, when it interfered with his *Integrity*, was at once renounced as no longer binding. (*) *Opera Pretium est* (says he) *Lectorem monere me nulla alia de Causa à Richardsono dissentire, nisi quod Veritatem aliis quibuscunque Amicitii anteferendam esse censeam.* And in another Place, (†) *Eo collineat Operum nostrorum Scopus, ut Veritatem pro virili asseramus, cui litavimus.*

There is one Thing indeed relating to *University College* (to which Society he (§) declares himself indebted) which it

(*) *Leland. Collect. Vol. 1. p. 37.* (†) *Alured. Beverl. p. 43.* (§) *Leland. Itin. p. 7, 8.*

would

would really be a Fault in us not to take Notice of, because we are positive his *Veritatis Amor* can never be reconciled with it.

During the late unhappy Contest in that House, occasioned by the Death of Dr. Charlett, Mr. Hearne published *Peter Langtoft's Chronicle*; at the End of the Second Volume, of which he adds a Glossary upon English Words. Upon the Word *Writ* he has it thus: We commonly understand by *Writ* (the same with the Latin *Breve*) a written Order or Precept from the King or Court of Judicature, by which any thing is commanded to be done, relating to a Suit or Action.

Had he left off here he had done very well: (*) *Sed ad Agendum Nati sumus* are his own Words; upon which Principle we suppose he proceeded in this Place. Of this kind (he tells us) is that remarkable one relating to *University College* of King *Richard* the Second, with his Seal annexed, which he just saw and hastily run over.

(*) *Rob. de Avesbury Pref. p. 1.*

Whether he ever saw this Instrument we shall not scruple at present, but whether there is any Seal to it, or has been, within the Compass of Mr. *Hearne's* Years, we leave to the Enquiries of the *Fellows* of that Society.

The same he tells us was done afterwards expressly by K. *Henry VI*, in a Writing quoted from the Muniments of the same College by (*) Mr. *Tweyne*. The thing will appear best to the Reader if we produce the Passage printed by Mr. *Tweyne*, and the Translation of it by Mr. *Hearne*.

Nam cum Temporibus Henrici Sexti inter Gulielmum Abbatem de Osney, & Richardum Witton illius Collegii Magistrum esset Controversia, &c. And then follows the Instrument itself, which is only a common Form in the Case of a Law-Suit drawn by some Attorney, which Mr. *Hearne*, without the least Authority whatever, makes to be one of these *Writs* or Precepts from the King or Court of Judicature relating to the depending Suit between the *Abbot of Osney* and *Richard Whitton* then Master of the College.

(*) B. *Tweyne Apolog. Antiq. Acad. Oxon.* p. 198.

How he came to translate *Temporibus Hen. viti* by the Order of Henry the vith, looks more like *Design* than *Blunder*; tho' we would not suggest that he had any Intent of giving a Turn to a Cause then depending in some Measure upon such Instruments as he would have made this.

The Annals of this College lately published by Mr. *Smith* we find gave our Antiquary some Distaste; but upon what Bottom this Anger is raised, a little Enquiry (if the Reader will permit) will soon discover.

In his Preface to (*) Dr. *Sprott* we find this Gentleman a very great Favourite of Mr. *Hearne's*; whose Character there given is *Vir per-exuditus & benevolus*: But we are afraid his Temper grew sour and morose as he advanced in Years. In his Preface to the Life of *Richard II.* we have another Account of Mr. *Smith*: viz. *Scriptor ille ferreus atque mendax Gulielmus Faber de Joh. Rosso tam maligne passim locutus est.*—*Hæc in Gratiam Gulielmi Fabri Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ (quod vix*

(*) *Sprott. Pref. p. 27.*

credas) Sacerdotis, qui multum Temporis in isto uno [scil. Antiquitatis] Studio consumsit, nuperque (jam pene Octogenarius) Librum prolixum, Annales Collegii Universitatis, Verbo haud satis apto, appellatum, Lingua vernacula conscripsit (ne dicam conscribillavit) & in publicum protrusit.

We cannot but observe here, that Mr. Smith's Age is made a part of his bad Character; when old Age, by some more sacred Writers than Mr. Hearne, is thought *honourable* rather than *scandalous*. Many other Sentences there are in this Preface, which abound with the same sort of Language of this Reverend old Gentleman, which the *Veritatis Amor* can never justify.

(*) One Passage there is respecting *Sprott* (whose Authority we own we have some Reason to scruple) which proves, that Mr. Hearne had either not kept up to his avowed Regard for *Truth*, or else had unhappily blundered in a Point of Chronology, tho' he abused Mr. Smith for it in the very same Case. His Words are these: *Sprottus floruit An. Dom. 1274, longe nimis citius quam exoptat Guil. Faber,*

(*) *Life of Rich. 2. Pref. p. 19.*

*qui ἀναχρησισμῶν immemor, audebat falso-
que retulit, Ranulphum Higdenum primum
omnium fuisse qui de Scholis Aluredianis
aliquid tradidit, &c.*

It is observable here in the fifth place, that *Sprott* lived (according to *Mr. Hearne's* own Confession) in 1274, which was in the Reign of *Edward* the First; that he studied *in ea parte Ædis Christi quam vulgo vocant Quadrangulum Cantuariense*, and that he wrote of *Canterbury College*, and left a Book behind him concerning it, is evident from the above-cited Preface to *Sprott's Chronicle*.

This is a very surprising *Canterbury Tale* indeed; and what would make *Sprott*, (provided it could be proved) more Famous than the *Samian* Philosopher, who, by the Help of Transmigration, passed thro' two or three Successive Stages of Generation, but never under the same Name.

Sprott, who lived in 1274, in the Reign of *Edward* the First, studied in *Canterbury College*, which was not built till 1363, and therefore, agreeable to this Account, must either have lived about 89 Years before he was born, or at least written
of

of a Place as many Years before it was built.

This Mistake we would have accounted for in our Author's Behalf, had it been in our Power ; but as it was not, we left it to himself, who was better qualified to reconcile Difficulties of this Nature.

Another Slip of this kind appears in Page 302 of his Collection of *Curious Discourses*. *Academia* (says he) *scripsit Guilielmo Wykham Episcopo Winton: ut illis accommodaret Machinas, quarum Ope Scholam Theologicam Voltis & Fornicibus exornarent*. It is very well known that the *Divinity School* (for which this Loan was desired) was built in the Year 1476, by *Tho. Kempe* Bishop of London. This Mr. *Hearne* allows in the Page preceding the Place before cited. (*) *William* of *Wikham* Bp. of *Winton* died the 27th of Sept. 1404. so that, according to this Assertion, the University sent to him *ut illis accommodaret Machinas, &c.* 60 Years after his Death. (†) *Rymer* in his *Fædera* tells us, that *Hen. Beaufort* Bp. of *Winton* died the 3d Id. of April 1447. and was succeeded by *William Waynflete*, who lived in

(*) *Le Neve*. p. 286. (†) *Rymer Fæd.* Vol. 8. p. 392.

Possession of the same till 1486. So that if for *Wikham* we read *Waynflete*, as the Person petitioned to by the University, we shall come within the Time of building the *Divinity School*, and set Mr. *Hearne* right in his Chronology. This we believe was an Alteration of no Design, but only a simple, thoughtless Blunder. Mistakes of this sort we shall conclude with an Assertion of his relating to *University College*, where he makes *William* of *Durham* to have studied in the *Great Hall*, which was not bought for the Use of *William* of *Durham's* Scholars till 124 Years after his Death.

As for the Censure passed upon Mr. *Smith* in the Passage above-cited (which really is too severe without better Grounds for it) we may venture to say it is Unjustifiable. For supposing that *Sprott's* Book was written before *Higden's*, yet still Mr. *Smith* (who had never seen or heard of it till he had finished his *Annals*) might undoubtedly say, and consistent with Truth too, that *Ralph Higden* was the first he ever had met with quoted as a Friend to the weak Cause of *K. Alfred's* Halls, and who seemed first to have introduced this Novelty into the World.

Mr.

Mr. Hearne therefore in the former Case seems to deserve the Sentence of being ἀναχρηστικῶν *immemor*; and int he latter to be very Ungenteel, to make no worse of it. (*) ‘*Utinam igitur Auctor Noster* (to use almost his own Words) ‘*Errorēs expungat, Librumque Retractionum ipse confestim edat, Crimenque nefandum, quod Clerico huic digno intulit, pro virili eluat. Hoc enim non extorsit Veritatis Amor.*’

Whilst we are thus impartially considering our Antiquary’s Character, by setting him right in his Mistakes, as well as commending his Virtues, one thing occurs which we should have been glad never to have had the Opportunity of correcting. About twenty Years before the Publication of the Life of *Richard II* (which was wrote by one of the Monks of *Evesham*, our Author, in his (†) Preface to the seventh Volume of *Leland’s Itinerary*, expresses a hearty Concern for the just Rights of the Crown, in Opposition to those, ‘who, in Order to advance and ‘maintain *Republican Principles*, strain

(*) *Leland. Collect. Vol. 1. p. 27.*

(†) *Leland. Itin. Pref. p. 12.*

‘ their *Inventions* to give a wrong *Turn* to, and *pervert* the *true Meaning* of our best *Historians*; and *studiously asperse, blacken and defame*, the Memory of King *Charles* the II (as others with less *Modesty* have done that of *K. Charles* the I.) What he has said upon these Points he hoped no *Ingenuous* or *Impartial* Person will think *Uncharitable* or *Unbecoming*.

These are sounding Words, and express a great deal of Loyalty to the Memory of those Princes. But such fickle Things are our *Memories*, that sometimes they seem to take Pleasure in exposing us. Hence doubtless it was that *Mr. Hearne* lately run counter to his own above-cited Declarations. It must be Forgetfulness (we hope so at least) that will suffer a Man to draw his own Character in an infamous Light; and whether he has not done it to the Life, let the *Reader* judge when he has heard the Accusation, and is referred to the Place where he may soon inform himself.

At the latter (*) End of the Life of *Richard* the 2d, there is a *Letter* printed and *Mr. (Hearne* says an *Original* one) of

(*) Pag. 405.

Charles the First when Prince of *Wales* : It is directed to the *Duke* of *Buckingham*, and interpreted by the *Publisher* of it, as carrying on an Affair of Gallantry. Be the Letter what it will, *Original* or not, He ought to have given a better Reason for making it publick. He was apprehensive (he tells us) that if such a *Letter* should be stifled, some Persons might interpret it an Instance of Partiality, and be apt to make base Reflections upon it. Let us examine this kind of Reasoning a little. The stifling this *Letter* would have been thought an *Instance* of *Partiality*; The Reason of which must be this; Because Mr. *Hearne* was necessarily obliged to publish every Thing he met with. And then, he says, that some Persons would be apt to make base Reflections on it: On the *Letter* we suppose, which if stifled, they might never see or hear of: Or if he meant those Gentlemen who communicated it to him, he again forgot his *Veritatis Amor*, because they never intended it should be printed. That it might escape therefore all *Censure* he published it in a heap of *Appendixes* and *Cura secunda*, and made it a hundred Times more easy for base Reflections to be cast on it than it was before.

This is the *Reason* given for publishing this *Letter*. In the next Book printed by him, which was *Trokelowe's Annals of Edward the 2d*) we have an Apology in his Preface for the very same Thing. The *Letter* became the Subject of almost every one's Discourse, and a Reflection cast upon a Prince, remarkable for his *uncommon Chastity*, could not but be taken Notice of by many of his Friends. Whether it had like to have discontinued any of his Subscriptions, or whether he had more maturely considered the Matter, we cannot say; this however is plain, that his *Apology* was designed to give a softer Turn, than was hinted in his *Explanation* of the *Letter*; and that he had rather have it thought, that the *Prince* was unwarily *mised*, than *inclined* to this Gallantry.

It had been more *prudent* (and we may add less *officious*) in Mr. *Hearne*, whilst he was thus endeavouring to clear himself, to have first got leave for the Printing this *Letter* from the *Gentleman* who shewed it him, and who, we are informed since, so highly resents it, that he broke off a Friendship with him, which had been kept very strict for many Years. We must subjoin by the way, that it is certainly a greater Instance of *Partiality* to publish a
Letter

Letter as an *Original*, which the Editor could not at that Time, nor afterwards, prove to be so.

The *Apology* will appear, upon a little Consideration, not at all inferior to his *Reason* for printing it; especially if we observe, that tho' he did not know what the *Intrigue* was, yet he happily conjectured, by making the *Prince* to be inticed like *Joseph* by the Importunity of a lewd Mistress; tho' we do not remember that *Joseph* ever wrote to a third Person about his Affair. Nay, it may be remarked farther, that Mr. *Hearne* makes the (*) Wife of *Pharoah* the importunate Woman, when the Scriptures assure us, it was *Potiphar's* Spouse that was so deeply smitten with the Comeliness of the *Hebrew*. But a Man may possibly forget his *Bible*, who is so very much taken up with *Adam de Domerham*, and the *black Book* of the *Exchequer*, &c.

Had this unfortunate *Prince* lived some hundred Years before he did, Mr. *Hearne's* Love for *Antiquity* might probably have

(*) This Blunder reached our Author's Ears, and in his Preface to *Tho. Caius* stands corrected, tho' with some Reluctance. For he says it signifies nothing whether it was *Pharoah's* or *Potiphar's* Wife.

engaged him in his *Defence* rather than in *exposing* him. We find him, in the (*) Appendix to *Leland's Collectanea*, very angry with *Tyrrel* the Historian for staining the Reputation of *Ethelred* and his first *Queen*: There he says 'it is a great Crime to scandalize any Person; the Heinousness of it increases according to the Dignity of the Person, of whom the Scandal is raised: But this (*says he*) may be wiped off by a public *Retraction*.'

This was good Doctrine, had not a Preface to *Camden's Queen Elizabeth* shewed, that Men do not always practise as they advise: But a public Retraction which (from the ingenuoufness of Mr. *Hearne's* Dposition) we had Reason to think he would make, might wipe off the Blemish he may have contracted, either in the Case of Prince *Charles*, or the indecent Language given Mr. *Smith*. His Pretence to *strict Integrity*, we were almost confident, would prevail with him to do it, in a better Manner than disguising it in a trifling *Apology*; and as he was a strict Enquirer after *Truth*, and is, by this Time, convinced it was wrong to publish the *Letter*, or abuse the aged *Divine*, we do not

(*) Page 77.

doubt but that he retracted what he had said in both Cases, and frustrated the Expectations of some People who thought he delighted in *Abuse*, tho' we hope he acknowledged our *Friendship* in setting him right.

Thus have we considered one of his excellent Qualities; the next is his *Fidelity* as an *Editor*.

One Rule which we have been informed he at first laid down, and generally speaking closely observed, was always to follow his Authors religiously. Their Mistakes by this means were punctually copied and sacredly preserved: Nay, the very Blunders of Transcribers were faithfully penned down for the Amusement of Posterity. *Prurigo emendandi ac commutandi a Nobis plane absit*, are his own Words in the Notes after the Appendix of *John of Trokelowe's Annals of Edward the Second*. And again in (*) *Leland's Itinerary* he declares, that he was so nice in this Affair, that 'I observed (*says he*) ' *Mr. Leland's Way of Spelling, and omitted nothing, not so much as the Asterisks, and other Notes of that Nature*

(*) *Leland. Bin.* Vol. 1. p. 15.

which

‘ which had been inserted by him: Nor did
 ‘ we leave out even those Words that are
 ‘ plainly *redundant*, nor pretend to alter
 ‘ those which are manifestly *wrong*, and
 ‘ occasioned by the Haste the Author was
 ‘ in, or else by the Defect of his Memory.

This Method is very observable throughout the numerous Volumes he has obliged the World with. *Sic MS.* he has noted perhaps in the *Margin* to shew that he was not ignorant of the Error in the *Copy*. *Delenda sunt ut opinor* may possibly be seen at the Bottom of one Page, and *lege*, &c. at another. Here perhaps may be a *Desunt*, &c. and there a *Subintellige*, &c. But still amidst all these Regulations, the Text is generally kept *purely corrupt*, and scarce a Blunder thro’ the whole, but what is very industriously preserved. Nay, so great a Regard had he for the old Way of Spelling, that the following *Epistle* (which we have printed as like the Original as possibly we could) is a standing Proof of it.

There are indeed a few Cases in which he has varied from this Rule, (*) which might have been concealed, ‘ *had we not*
 ‘ *been apprehensive* (to use his own Words

(*) History of Rich. II. p. 404. Cur. Sec.

‘ in another Case) that some Persons, if
‘ such Slips should be stified, might have
‘ interpreted it a great Instance of Parti-
‘ ality, and made base Reflections upon it.’
One of this Nature we must not pass by,
lest his Character should prevail (as
probably it might) with some Men here-
after to establish his *Errors* for *Truths*.

(*) Dr. Leonard Hutton, in his Anti-
quities of Oxford, has quoted a Line from
Shepreve’s Life of (†) Dr. Claymond, con-
cerning a *Shed* which formerly stood in the
Corn-Market, built to skreen the Corn
from the Weather. Upon this there was
an Inscription, and the Copy from whence
he transcribed it, had it thus, viz.

Ut possit *sircum* Saccus habere locum.

In this Verse there appears a palpable
Error, which a Reader of no extraordi-
nary Capacity might have discovered
and corrected. But see the Misfortune
of not following an old Rule. By an
unhappy Conjecture he has wandered from
his Copy, and to make *better Sense* of it
he has acted the *Critic’s* Part, and mended

(*) Dr. Hutton, Student of *Cbrist-Church*, about the
Year 1574.

(†) Dr. Claymond President of *Corpus*.

sircum with *circum*. But we think the Alteration of this *Letter* makes but little Difference in the Sense. The Lines (as we copied them from the Manuscript Life, now in the *Musæum* at Oxford) run thus, *viz.*

Plebs ubi Rura colens, empturis hordea vendit,
Aspice quadrifido tecta propinqua foro.
Hoc erexit opus talem Claymundus in Usum
Ut *Siccum* possit Saccus habere Locum.

Whether this Mistake arose from his not having an Ear for the *Monkish Music*, an Error of the like Nature may serve to determine.

(*) In the Catalogue of his Works, annexed to the History of *Glastonbury*, he has published an Inscription in the following manner, now to be seen in the Remains of *Rewly*.

ELE LONGESPE COMITISSE DE
VERVIC VISCERA SVNT HIC.

Mr. *Wood* saw this intire; but afterwards it was broken, and unskilfully placed in a Wall of one of the lower Rooms of (†) *Rewly*, where Mr. *Hearne* says he has

*) *Antiq. Glaston.* p. 337.

†) A Monastery adjoining *Oxon.*

often seen it, and that it is very legible. In this ancient Inscription we find there is a *Jingle* too; and had it been so legible as he declares it was when he saw it, we are surpris'd that *He*, of all Men, would be so inaccurate a Copyer a Trade he followed all his Life) as to transpose one Word and add another, instead of taking it as it really is,

ELE DE WERWICK
COMITISSE VISCERA SUNT HIC.

The Word *Longespe*, inserted in his Account of it, is not upon the Stone, how legible soever he asserted it to be; and the Spelling of *Werwick* quite altered by him, without the least Authority whatever but his own.

This Blunder may in some Measure be accounted for in this Manner. — There is now in the *Anatomy School* (which was formerly under the Care of Mr. *Hearne*) a Stone found at *Rewly*, (probably the Foundation-Stone of a Chapel there) bearing this Inscription — — ELE LONGESP COMIT: WAREW: HANC CAPELLAM FECIT: This no doubt had often been perused by our *Antiquary*, as well as the other before mentioned; and perhaps the trusting

trusting too much to Memory, might raise a confused Notion of both Incriptions, and corrupt the *Monkish Fingle* in the former Case.

These few Mistakes then having taken their Rise from not sticking closely to his *Copy*: we shall take Notice of but One more, which was occasioned by following it too closely; and it may be seen in his Edition of that valuable (*) MS. which is said to have belonged formerly to Venerable *Bede*.

Let it be observed in the first Place, that this MS. is in very old Capital Letters, and each Page divided into two Columns: The first contains the *Latin*, the *Greek* is wrote collaterally in the other. Thro' the *Oscitancy* of the Scribe, the *Latin* Sentence is frequently carried beyond the Bounds of its own Column, by which means it becomes intermixed with the *Greek*. The Text as he has printed it stands thus: *viz.*

MIRARI COEPERVNT ΕΘΑΥΜΑΖΟΝ
ΕΤ CONFVNDEBANTVR ΜΕΝΤΕΚΑΙΔΙΗΠΙΟΡΟΥΝ

At the Bottom of his Page (not contented

(*) MS. *Latino Græc.* Fol. 38.

with Dr. Mills's Reading) he adds *sic plane in Codice nostro non ἰθαυμαζον κ' δυνάμενοι ut apud Millium*; tho' it will appear beyond all Dispute upon any one's Enquiry, that the Doctor was not in the least to be blamed. For, as we observed before, thro' the Carelessness of the Scribe, the Latin Line being carried beyond its due Bounds into the Greek Column, and the Words MENTE and MEN TE consisting of five Capital Letters, just the same in both Languages, unhappily led Mr. Hearne into this Mistake. So that by defalcating one Word from the Latin, and converting it into two Greek ones of no Signification at all, he spoiled the Sense of the one, and made the other quite superfluous.---But some Faults sure are pardonable in so voluminous a Writer.

To be particular in shewing his Talent at Reasoning would, we fear, be making too free with our Reader's Time: We might quote three Parts of his Discourse on the *Stunsfield Pavement*, had not Mr. Poynter thoroughly considered it already; and give such Instances of it which nothing but Envy or Ill-Nature could find Fault with: But the following *Epistle* prevents our dwelling upon this Excellency, it being a Master-piece of its kind, and what the Reader, we hope, will be greatly delighted with.

But

But let the Epistle speak for itself : There is one Paragraph in his (*) Preface to *Sprott's Chronicle*, which really seems to be a new Method of Reasoning, such as no Writer but himself, we believe, dares lay any Claim to. He is there speaking in *Sprott's Praise*, and his Words are these — *Adeo ut non videam cur mihi sit Detrimeto, si publice declarem me opinari de Academia nostra Oxoniensi Opus etiam justum ac distinctum contexuisse* : And then comes the Reason in the very next Sentence, viz. *Opinioni favet Auctoris Pietas. Quod si Tu aliter sentias, Ego in Sententia non perstabo nec quorsum recidant quaecunque animadverti magnopere laborabo, si modo illud concesseris de Collegio Cantuariensi Opus post se reliquisse, in quo multa itidem de tota Academia è Monumentis præclaris obiter notaverit.*

This is the Argument produced to prove that the Author of that *lean Chronicle* (whether *Sprott* or some other) it not clearly appearing that *Sprott* was the Author of it, composed many other valuable Books, not at all inferior to the *Chronicle* which is published. Great Pity indeed ! that such profitable Works should be bu-

(*) Pag. 28, 29.

ried in Obscurity ; and doubtless was there not some Hope of their being still recoverable, *Sprott's* Admirers (how inflexible soever in other Cases) would lament greatly under their Loss in this.

Agreeable to this new Method of Reasoning we find an uncommon Conjecture in his Preface to the Sixth Volume of *Leland's Itinerary*, which very few Writers would ever have made. From a Medal of *Carausius* bearing this Inscription, VICTORIA CEA, he endeavours to prove, that the Brogue of the common People is the true Standard of the *Roman* Dialect and Pronunciation. The Word *Cesar*, according to this *curious Remark*, is not to be pronounced as it generally is by People of Fashion and Breeding, *Cesar*, but agreeable to the broad Manner of speaking used by the most rustic of Mankind, and as it stands upon the Coin, CEASAR.

We acknowledge the Observation to be a very curious one, and to stand upon the Authority of a Medal, but if it should ever be discovered, that it proceeded from an Error of the *Mint-Master*, from a simple Literal Transposition, or from any other Accident (as possibly it might) the Remark will then sink into its Value ; The

D

Coin

Coin indeed may be curious upon the Account of the Blunder, but is no more an Argument to ascertain the Truth of Dialect or Pronunciation, than that *spurious Halfpenny* of his present Majesty, would be a Standard in the next Age for pronouncing GEORGIVS instead of GEORGIVS.

It would waste too much of the Reader's Time probably, to offer here a Collection of all the Poetical Fragments scattered thro' his Labours; the Preservation of which by Printing them, we must observe, shews no small Desire to be useful to Mankind, as these Rhythmes contain either Lessons of Oeconomy; such as,

With a red Man reade thy read;
 With a brown Man break thy Bread:
 At a pale Man draw thy Knife;
 From a black Man keep thy Wife.

Rob. Glouc. 2 Vol. p. 698.

Or an Account of an ancient local Custom.

Ule, Ule, Ule, Ule,
 Three Puddings in a Pule,
 Crack Nuts and cry Ule.

Rob. Glouc. p. 679.

Or else an Illustration of a Pedigree:
 William

William de Coningsby
Came out of Britany,
With his Wife Tiffany,
And his Maid Manfas,
And his Dog Hardegrafs.

Thus have we collected some Memorials of Mr. *Hearne's* Life, and have taken the Liberty to correct some few Mistakes in his Writing. In a Thing of such Moment we have been very careful not to offend any impartial Reader: we have avoided *Flattery* on the one Hand, and *Scandal* on the other. We have described his good Qualities as they occurred, and rectified such as must be acknowledged to have been gross *Errors*; and such as he would not pass over in any Author that fell in his way either Living or Dead. Nay, if any Person differed from Him, but in his own private Opinion, it was Ground sufficient for him to let loose the Reins of his utmost Vengeance; a flagrant and very unjustifiable Instance of which we shall here produce.

In the Year 1726, Mr. *Hearne*, in the Catalogue of *Trifles* of which he had been the Editor, subjoined to one of his most

trifling ones (*) in mentioning Mr. Dodwell's Dissertation *De Parma Equestri Woodwardiana*, printed at Oxford 1713, 8vo, our Author thus harangues; W

Mirum certe nemini videri debet, nonnullorum invidiam sibi ipsi (Dodwello) concitasse, qui sane incredibili odio prosequerentur. Verum hi impii fere erant, qualis equidem & scriptor ille superus fuit, Gualterus Moyleus armiger, cujus opera posthuma (nam auctor ipse ad plures abiit) omnes boni procul a seipsis arcere debent, quippe in quibus de auctoribus praestantissimis optimisque plerisque, tam veteribus quam recentibus, contumaciter arroganterque scripserit, nequidem ipsis Sanctis Patribus exceptis, de quibus hac pro more fidenter protulit [Voll. II. Pag. 183.] As for the modern Casuists, I shall only produce Bishop Sanderson, who had more LOGIC and Judgment than all the Fathers put together. Sed pudet pigetq; hunc authorem nominasse. Atque ut verum fatear, ideo potissimum piget, quod in ejus operibus compareat Dodwelli Epistola, satis proluxa linguaue vernacula concepta, (de Dialogo, Luciano vulgo adscripto, titulus Philopatris) misere

(*) *Johannis Confratris & Monachi Glastoniensis Chronica, sive Historia de Rebus Glastoniensibus à Codice MS. 8vo.*

tamen

tamen decurtata ac luxata, multisque mendis scatens gravioribus, dignissima profecto, quæ vel seorsim edatur, vel saltem in auctoris ipsius operibus simul collectis accurate divulgetur. Hæc brevissime de Gualtero Moyleo, viro leviter docto, qui (ex odio in Clerum Clerique amicos) Scriptores optimos virosque præstantissimos libere, pro modulo ingenii, insectatus est, cujus tamen vituperia ut omnes boni valde contemnent, ita & encomia ab ejusmodi calamo provenientia non est quod quis magni faciat.

Pag. 651. Jam si objicias, de re nostra antiquaria anglo Britannica eximie differuisse Moyleum, summam respondeo, fastum, mea plane sententia, passim comparere, raro peritiam, rarius animi candorem, rarissime (fatente etiam, ut videtur, ipso Editore) quod tantopere crepat, acre judicium. Pueriliter, (ne dicam semidocte) omnia de Inscriptione Bathonica. Alioqui (ut alia taceam) non pronunciasset Fabriciensis (idem proculdubio quod Fabricensis) Julii Vitalis cognomen sive agnomen fuisse; Fabrice (quod idem plane est quod Fabricæ) vocem compendiarium esse pro Fabricensium; Collegium antiquitus nunquam ædificium ipsum, quo vivebatur, sed semper societatem sive sodalitium denotare, & ad initium Inscriptionum Sepulchralium Ethnicarum. D. M. sive Diis
D 3 Manibus

Manibus nunquam non esse sculptum. Imo
 Et pueriliter etiam (ne quid dicam de objec-
 tione absurdissima contra Actorum Diurno-
 rum Romanorum Fragmenta, quæ authen-
 tica esse viri longe maximi Stephanus Vi-
 nandus Pighius, Thomas Renesius, Isaacus
 Vossius, Henricus noster (Dodwellus, alii-
 que rectissime judicaverant) de Clypeo votivo
 Woodwardiano (de quo ea qua licuit brevi-
 tate Et nos in Livio nostro egimus, locutus
 est.) Sed hoc de argumento audi, queso, quod
 ipse doctissimus Woodwardus per literas
 ad me scripsit, Londini datas Junii 30.
 M DCC XXVI. Sic nimirum vir claris-
 simus.

‘ You form a right judgment of Mr.
 ‘ Moyle’s Works.— As to my *Clypeus Voti-*
 ‘ *vus*, for such the best Antiquaries judge
 ‘ it to be, Mr. Moyle passes sentence upon
 ‘ it, without ever having seen it, from
 ‘ two very imperfect Sketches of Dr.
 ‘ Clarke and Drakensberg, and without
 ‘ having consulted Mr. Dodwell’s excellent
 ‘ Book *de Parma*, &c. where he might
 ‘ have seen the Question of the Theatres
 ‘ fairly discussed in order to the ascertain-
 ‘ ing the true Antiquity of the Shield.
 ‘ That truly learned Man is far from
 ‘ carrying the Antiquity of it up to the
 ‘ time of the Sacking of Rome by the
 ‘ Gauls.

‘ *Gauls*. So that Mr. *Moyle* in demolish-
 ‘ ing that Notion, only demolishes a mere
 ‘ fancy of his own. But that it was anti-
 ‘ ent is agreed by the best Judges of all
 ‘ Nations, and the Baron *Spanheim*, and
 ‘ Mr. *Abednego Sellers*, two of the most
 ‘ learned Men of the last Century, thought
 ‘ it so considerable, that they had both
 ‘ begun to write Dissertations on it, but
 ‘ were both prevented finishing them by
 ‘ Death.’

This Treatment of Mr. *Moyle*, was,
 by Mr. *Curll*, a Bookseller in *London*, very
 justly reprehended; who, with an Edition
 he had printed of Mr. *Moyle*’s Works pub-
 lished in his Life time, sent the following
 Letter to *Anthony Hammond Esq*; as an
 Apology for his Friend Mr. *Moyle*, some
 Account of whose Life and Writings he
 had just then published.

Let us a little consider, Sir, (says Mr.
Curll) the Antagonists Mr. *Moyle* has met
 with through the Management of Mr.
Serjeant. (*) As to the Attacks of Mess.
Whiston and *Woolston*, relating to the
Thundering Legion, their *Guides* are so very

(*) Mr. *Thomas Serjeant*, of the Tower, publish’d
 Mr. *Moyle*’s *Posthumous Works* as the whole of his Writings,
 without so much as taking Notice of what that Gentleman
 had himself published.

bad, that I dare say their Followers will be very few; I shall therefore content myself with what *Monsieur Le Clerc* observes upon a particular Occasion. † ' Mr. Addison is of Opinion, says he, that the Figure of *Jupiter Pluvius*, sending down Rain on the fainting Army of *Marcus Aurelius*, and Thunderbolts on his Enemies, is the greatest Confirmation possible of the Story of the *Thundering Legion*: This learned Man would apparently mean to say, that this Figure is a Monument of the Shower which fell on the *Roman* Army, and of the Thunder which confounded the *Germans*; for as to the *Thundering Legion*, the Learned are agreed that it had that Denomination long before this Circumstance; and that there is no Probability that it was intirely made up of *Christians*. See *Henry de Valois* upon *Eusebius*, Lib. 5. Cap. 5. and *Father Pagi* upon the Year CLXXIV.

Thus, with *Monsieur Le Clerc*, I leave this *Thundering Legend*. And, may it still continue to lead up the Van of Miracles in the *Romish Church*; for as *Mr. Moyle* well Remarks, as it took its Name from

(†) See *Bibliothèque Choise*, ARTIC. of Mr. Addison's Remarks on *Italy* &c.

Paganism (*), it is most proper that it should end in *Popery*.

I shall by and by incur the same Censure as Mr. *Moyle* has undergone; for I freely acknowledge, that I have the same Opinion of Archbishop *Tillotson*, which he had of Bishop *Sanderfon*, That He had more Judgment than all the Fathers put together. And I believe the same Character might justly be given of Bishop *Taylor*, Bishop *Pearson*, Dr. *Barrow*, and that truly great Man you have named, Bishop *Stillingfleet*, and several other of our English Divines.

Before I mention any part of Mr. *Hearne's* Charge, I shall give a Summary of Mr. *Moyle's* Religious Principles in his own Words, viz. 'If Men, says he, would
' but consider, that it is not only our Duty,
' but our Interest to be Virtuous, one
' would think this were no hard Task to
' perform, viz. reforming the Manners of
' the People, and restoring them to their
' antient Sobriety and Virtue. Among a
' thousand Advantages that Christianity
' has, above all other Religions, this is
' none of the least, that it has united our In-

(*) See, his *Posthum. Works*, Vol. 2. p. 83.

' interest and our Duty together. Would not
 ' a wise Man be Chaste for the sake of
 ' Health; Honest for the sake of Profit;
 ' Temperate for the sake of Pleasure, and
 ' all Three for the sake of Fame? For
 ' Vice was never yet so triumphant as to
 ' be in greater Reputation than Virtue.
 ' These Considerations, together with the
 ' innumerable Mischiefs and Inconveni-
 ' encies which attend a vicious Course of
 ' Life, ought in Reason to reclaim Men
 ' from *all* unmanly Excesses. One would
 ' think in a Christian Nation, that Reli-
 ' gion and Conscience; our own Hopes
 ' and Fears; the Prospect of eternal Hap-
 ' piness or endless Misery, should be Con-
 ' siderations strong enough to lay an effec-
 ' tual Restraint on the most violent Lusts
 ' and Appetites. — One of the greatest
 ' Obstacles, in my Opinion, to the Re-
 ' formation of Manners, is, that too many
 ' Men place all Virtue and Religion in
 ' warmly adhering to the Interest of this
 ' or that particular Sect or Party: As if a
 ' fiery Zeal for the Church, or the Meet-
 ' ing-House, could atone for Lewdness
 ' and Debauchery; or as if vicious and
 ' immoral Men could be of any Christian
 ' Church or Community (*)

(*) See, his Charge to the *Grand Jury* at *Lescard*. *Posthumous Works*. Vol. 1. p. 152, 155, 156, and 158.

Now Sir, tho' I should be as far from interrupting the indefatigable Labours of Mr. *Hearne* in his Historical Studies as any Man living; yet I think no Man ought to be indefatigable in Slander, and that the Unchristian Temper he has shewn ought to be reprehended. And it gives me no small Concern to find the grave Style of an Antiquarian changed to the foul-mouthed Language of the most abandoned Prostitute. Neither can I by any means agree, that whatever *unguarded Expressions* Mr. *Moyle* may have dropt, can be just Grounds of Provocation for such Scurrility, as I believe never before fell from the Pen of any Controvertist. But Mr. *Moyle* has himself hit the right Nail on the Head in the Passage above cited. Mr. *Moyle* was a professed *Whig*, and a hearty Well-wisher to his Country. Mr. *Hearne* is a professed *Non-Juror*, and a fiery Bigot to those of his own Principles. With him, Pope *Clement* the XI, and Mr. *Dodwell* were equally Infallible, and, in the true meaning of the Word, I believe so too. Mr. *Moyle*, as a *Whig*, must be a *Republican*, a *Contemner of Religions*; one who had a natural *Antipathy to the Clergy and their Friends*, a meer *Ignoramus*, and, in good Ecclesiastical Charity, gone to the Devil. I cannot

not help therefore asking you, Sir, whether you really think the Positions advanced by Mr. Moyle in his *Lescard-Charge*, or any part of his Conduct to which you were ever a Witness, could deserve such Treatment, especially from one who never knew him otherwise than by his Writings.

As to the *Critical Dispute*, I shall be as silent as I resolve to be about the *Legendary one* above mentioned. Yet I cannot help observing, that what Dr. Woodward says, is very merrily dogmatical. For, he will have it that Mr. Hearne forms a right Judgment of all Mr. Moyle's Works, — because the best Antiquaries have judged his Shield to be a *Clypeus Votivus*. And Mr. Moyle is highly criminal, and passes Sentence upon it, without ever having seen it, otherwise than by two Draughts. Now I would only ask the learned Doctor one plain Question; If I see the Picture of a Horse, am I to believe the living Animal it represents to be a Bear? But indeed he descends a little, and says, That the Baron Spanheim and Mr. Sellers intended to write Dissertations upon it, and that some other Antiquarians really believed it to be an Antique; (*anglice*) the Back of an Old Sconce, which I have been credibly informed he bought in Rag-Fair.

As

As to that Piece of Mr. *Dodwell's*, which Mr. *Hearne* complains is imperfectly printed, it is to be hoped he will oblige the learned World with a more correct Copy; tho' this Imputation does not lye against Mr. *Moyle*, but against the Person who transmitted that Piece to him.

May Mr. *Hearne* hereafter retain a more Christian Temper. May his useful Studies, as you are pleased to call them, meet with all the Success he can expect, and may the scurrillous Cavils, both of him and every other Writer, meet with that just Contempt which is due to such Performances. This is the hearty Wish of,

Sir, Yours &c. E. CURLL.

Upon this Occasion Mr. *Curll* also wrote the following Letter to Mr. *Hearne*, viz.

S I R,

YOUR late *Invective* against Mr. *Moyle* I shall prove to be wholly *Groundless* and therefore it turns upon yourself.

In

In the first place you will have it, that all who dissent from Mr. *Dodwell* are a set of abandoned Wretches, and such indeed was *Walter Moyle Esq;* whose *Posthumous Works* all good Men ought to lay aside; for Reasons hereafter to be considered. As to Mr. *Dodwell*, I had above twenty Years intimate Correspondence with him, and always believed him to be a learned, and very pious Man. But at the same time, all, who knew him, will allow that Mr. *Dryden's* Character of a certain Peer, in *Absalom* and *Achitophel*, too much resembled Mr. *Dodwell*; for he truly was, what the Poet asserts,

Stiff in Opinions, mostly in the Wrong;
Was every thing by starts and nothing long.

The First Book I ever printed was the present of a Manuscript he made me, in Defence of his, now sufficiently exploded, Doctrine of the *Divine Imortalizing Spirit transfused by Baptism* (*). And if you will, undertake to vindicate every Notion he advanced, *God speed the Plough*. Secondly, you will have it, that Mr. *Moyle* treats

(*) An *Explication* of a famous Passage in the Dialogue of St. *Justin Martyr* with *Tryphon*, concerning the *Immortality* of *Human Souls*, &c. 8vo. printed in the Year 1708, price 2s. 6d.

with

with great Contumacy and Arrogance many of the best and most excellent Authors as well ancient as modern, (tho' you name none but your Doctissimus Woodwardus vir Clarissimus, of whom more in the sequel) and, you add, he does not spare even the Holy Fathers, of whom he confidently asserts that Bishop Sanderson had more Judgment than all of them put together. And I am as confident that every Man of Judgment in Europe believes this Article of Mr. Moyle's CREED.

Now since your Breast is animated with so much Heat in behalf of these *Venerabilia*, the *Fathers*, I desire to know by what better Authority, than a *Popish* Canonization, are they invested with the Epithet of *Holy*? If indeed, all the *Libertinism* of *Youth* be sufficient to confer that Title, and all the *Impotence* of *Age*, be sufficient to confirm it, the Plea is good, and the Precedents produced may be St. *Augustine*, St. *Origen*, and that notorious Saint, of *Creed-making* Memory, St. *Athanasius*. Who in their Works may say of each other——

Quantum mutatus ab illo.

Therefore, as to their *Sacredness*, I think it
may

may be fairly said to be *extinct*. Upon these Considerations indeed, *you ought to be sorry and ashamed to mention Mr. Moyle as you have done.*

Thirdly, With what Face, other than that of an assuming Arrogance, can you say that Mr. Moyle was but a superficial Writer, after Dean Prideaux, (with whom certainly you will have the Modesty to own you cannot stand in Competition) has thanked him for the Pains he had taken about his Connection? And declares, that he should have been glad of the Assistance of so Learned a Friend near him, to whom he might have communicated that History before it was printed. () You farther add, with an equal share of Confidence and Falshood, (as will appear from the Sentiments of learned Men) that, he was one, who on account of his Hatred to the Clergy, and their Friends, has boldly, according to the measure of his Understanding, (I heartily wish yours was either as deep or as honest) railed against the best Writers, and the most excellent Men. (But, latet Anguis in Herba, the Men you here hint at, are the professed Enemies of our Constitution both in Church and State, and as*

(*) Posth. Works. Vol. 2. p. 36.

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such only were opposed by Mr. Moyle.) What you farther, with the greatest Dis- ingenuity insinuate against him, may be strictly applied to your own Temper, that, as all good Men must despise the Censure of so scurrilous an Antagonist, so they must, upon the same Principles, have but a very slight Opinion of those Persons whose Encomiums are drawn by your Pen.

Mr. MOTLE's wayward-Editor, you have indeed justly reprehended; but as to your Cavils concerning the Bath In- scription, they are equally disingenuous. Does he not tell Dr. Masgrave, whom he allowed to be a superior Judge, with all the becoming Modesty of a well bred Gentlemen, that, *he could pretend to no great Skill in these Matters; but since you ask my Opinion (says he to the Doctor) I will give it with my usual Frankness, not doubting but you will receive it with your usual Candour (*)*. This is corresponding like Men of Sense and Integrity!

As you began with Mr. Dodwell, I am forry to conclude, that you are guilty of

* Posth. Works, Vol. 1. pag. 169, 176.

the Charge he brings against his Opponents, in the Piece I printed for him abovementioned, pag, 143. *It is my great Unhappiness, says he, that I have to do with Adversaries, who will not be confined to the Subject of our principal Dispute, without deviating to personal Reflections, wherein the Reader is not any Way concerned. This is the Bane of all Controversy, and I hope for the future you will avoid it.*

Lastly, As to your Vir Clarissimus Woodwardus Doctissimus, he most learnedly follows the Low-bell of your Scandal, and shields himself under your Sentiments of his Clypeus Votivus. But I would advise neither of you to be too fond of your own confined Speculation, and rest assured that there has already been more Thousands sold of Mr. Moyle's Works, than ever there will be Hundreds either of your Monkish Chronicles, or his Fossilarian-Labours, including his late Fardle of Self-conceit, prefix'd to his Self-defence (against the Objections of the learned Camerarius) which was written by himself, tho' he has franked it under the Cover of his Translator Holloway. And to my other Wishes for your Welfare, may you, during

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ring Life, reign unrivalled, *Legendary-grubber* to the University of Oxford.

E. CURLE.

P. S. That the Public may be fully convinced how different the Sentiments of the *truly Learned* are from those *Self-conceited Sciologists* who have attacked Mr. Moyle's Writings, it will be sufficient to produce the Judgment given by *Monsieur de la Roche* * of *The whole Works of Walter Moyle, Esq;* (published by himself.)

‘ Wit, good Sense and Learning
‘ are equally conspicuous in the Works
‘ of the late Mr. Moyle; and therefore
‘ it was very proper to reprint those
‘ Pieces which were published by the Au-
‘ thor himself, at several Times; by which
‘ Means, we have now in Three Volumes
‘ all the Works of that Ingenious and
‘ Learned Gentleman. He being a very
‘ honest Man, was always very zealous
‘ for the Liberty of his Country; and
‘ that noble Character appears in many
‘ Parts of his Works. When he came in-

* See New Memoirs of Literature for the Month of September 1726, Vol. 4. pag. 225 & seq.

‘ to Parliament he always acted a very
 ‘ honourable Part. He was a Person
 ‘ of an uncommon Beneficence and Hu-
 ‘ manity. A more extensive Charity, and
 ‘ a truer Love for his Country, was scarce
 ‘ to be found in any Man. It appears
 ‘ he had a great Esteem for the Clergy,
 ‘ and was admirably well qualified for
 ‘ *Critical Enquiries**.

Now lest we should be thought *partial*,
 as to what we have written concerning
 the *Triflings* of this notable Antiquary,
 we shall here produce what Mr. *Alex-
 ander Pope* of *Twickenham*, in the County
 of *Middlesex*, hath noted concerning him,
viz. ‘ I can never enough praise my very
 ‘ good Friend the exact Mr. *Thomas*
 ‘ *Hearne*, who if any Word occur, which
 ‘ to him and all Mankind is evidently
 ‘ *wrong*, yet keeps he it in the Text with
 ‘ due Reverence, and only remarks in the
 ‘ Margin, *Sic MSS.* or *Sic Orig.* And
 in another Place, he thus delivereth him-
 self; ‘ Our own Antiquary Mr. *Thomas*
 ‘ *Hearne* hath published many curious
 ‘ Tracts which our Poet hath to his
 ‘ great Contentment perused.

* Mr. *Moyle*'s Works are printed for Mr. *Curl*.

[In Glossar. to Rob. of Gloucester] Artic. BEHETT; others say BEHIGHT, *promised*, and so it is used excellently well by Thomas Norton, in his Translation into Metre of the 116th Psalm, verse 14.

*I to the Lord will pay my Vows,
That I to him BEHIGHT.*

Where the modern Innovators; not understanding the Propriety of the Word (which is truly English from the Saxon) have most unwarrantably altered it thus,

*I to the Lord will pay my Vows,
With Joy and great Delight.*

V. Ibid.—[HIGHT] In Cumberland they say to *hight*, for to *promise* or *vow*; but HIGHT usually signifies *was called*; and so it does in the North even to this Day, notwithstanding what is done in Cumberland.

V. 183. AREDE] *Read* or *Peruse*; tho' sometimes used for *Counsel*; READE THY READ, *take thy Counsaile*. Thomas Sternholde in his Translation of the first

‘ Psalm into *English Metre*, hath wisely
 ‘ made use of this Word,

*The Man is blest that hath not lent
 To wicked READ his Ear.*

‘ But in the last spurious Editions of
 ‘ the singing Psalms, the Word *Read* is
 ‘ changed into *Men*. I say spurious Editions,
 ‘ because not only here, but quite
 ‘ throughout the whole Book of Psalms,
 ‘ are strange Alterations, all for the worse!
 ‘ And yet the Title-page stands as it used
 ‘ to do! And all (which is abominable
 ‘ in any Book, much more in a sacred
 ‘ Work) is ascribed to *Thomas Sternholde*,
 ‘ *John Hopkins*, and others! I am confident
 ‘ were *Sternholde* and *Hopkins* now
 ‘ living, they would proceed against the
 ‘ Innovators as Cheats. A Liberty
 ‘ which, to say no more of their intolerable
 ‘ Alterations, ought by no means
 ‘ to be admitted or approved of by such as
 ‘ are for *Uniformity*, and have any Regard
 ‘ for the old *English Saxon Tongue*.
 ‘ HEARNE, *Gloss. on Rob. of Gloc. Art.*
 ‘ REDE.’

We do herein agree with *Mr. Hearne*.
 Little is it of Avail to object, that such
 Words are become *unintelligible*. Since
 they

they are truly *English*, we ought to understand them; and such as are for *Uniformity* should think all Alterations in a Language, *Strange, abominable and unwarrantable.* [SCRIBLERUS Not. in DUNC.]

This is all *Ironice* and *Scriblerian-Railery*; and as such only, is it here produced. Of all such Antiquaries therefore, as Mr. HEARNE, well hath Mr. POPE described them.

— *dim in Clouds, the poreing Scholiasts
mark,
Wits, who like Owls, see only in the dark;
A Lumber-house of Books in ev'ry Head,
For ever reading, never to be read!*

Well likewise might he ask this Question, *viz.*

But, who is he in Closet clost y-pent,
Of sober Face, with learned Dust besprent?
Right well mine Eyes arede the myster
Wight,
On Parchment Scraps y-fed and *Hearnus*
Hight. *Wormius*

To future Ages may thy *Dulness* last,
As thou preserv'st the *Dulness* of the past!

With equal Justice hath Mr. Pope finely rallied another Species of these poring Wretches, the *mere Medalists*, who are wholly ignorant of the *true use* of those *Coins* which they seem so intensely to study, *viz*

With sharpen'd Sight pale Antiquaries
pore,
Th' *Inscription* value, but the *Rust* adore;
This the *Blue* varnish, that the *Green* in-
dears,
The *sacred Rust* of twice Two hundred
Years.
To gain *Pescennius* one employs his
Schemes;
One gains a *Cetrops* in exstatic Dreams;
Poor *Vadius* (*) long with learned Spleen
devour'd
Can taste no Pleasure since his Shield was
scour'd;
And *Curio* restless by the Fair One's Side,
Sighs for an *Otho*, and neglects his Bride (||).

It is now high Time to take Leave
of such *Glossographers* and *Medallists* as

(*) Dr. Woodward.

(||) Pope's Verses to Mr. Addison, on his *Dialogues* upon
Medals.

these so justly censured by Mr. Pope, For, according to Mr. Hearne's very silly Defence of *Sternholde* and *Hopkins*, our Language should not have admitted of any Improvements, but have continued in the obsolete Guise of *Geoffrey of Monmouth* and *Chaucer*; nor is it to be doubted but Mr. Hearne was full in Opinion, that Mr. Dryden had injured *Chaucer's* Diction, as much as those he calls the *Innovators* upon the *Psalms*.

We shall next consider our Antiquary's Political and Religious Principles.

Mr. Hearne wrote a Letter to his Patron, Mr. Cherry, in Vindication of those who took the Oath of *Allegiance* to King *William*; (*) and we cannot think it any bad Part of a Man's Character to give his Reasons for complying with that Oath,

(*) It was intituled, *A Vindication of those who take the Oath of Allegiance to his present Majesty, from Perjury, Injustice, and Disloyalty, charged upon them by such as are against it. Wherein is evidently shewed, That the common Good of a Nation is what is primarily and principally respected in an Oath, and therefore when the Oath is inconsistent with that, the Persons who have taken it, are absolved from it. In proving of which, the Case of Maud and King Stephen is particularly considered. In a Letter to a Non-Juror. Conscientia mille Testes. Printed in the Year 1731. 8vo.*

which

which others refused. The Point was disputable, and Censures no Doubt were passed upon the *Jurors* as well as *Non-Jurors*. His Reasons for Compliance (how weak soever in the Eyes of those of a different Persuasion) were doubtless good in his own; and if he discovered better afterwards for *refusing* the Oath, than he before gave for the *taking* it, we think, and with strict Justice, that he ought to have produced them for the Benefit of the Public and clearing the Point in Dispute. How he became dissatisfied in this Affair, is not the Business of our Inquiry.

What Mr. *Hearne* could mean by publishing a Letter of King *Charles I*, when Prince of *Wales* (therefrom insinuating, that his Royal Highness had then an Intrigue upon his Hands, and the Duke of *Buckingham* played the Part of Pimp upon the Occasion) is a Mystery which we believe his Fautors will have much ado to unravel. But at the earnest Request of many Friends, we have here reprinted that Letter, to shew what little Grounds there were for so ill a Construction as has been put upon it. It is as follows, *viz.*

STEENIE,

STEENIE,*

I Have nothing now to wryte to you, but to give you thanks bothe for the good counsell ye gave me, and for the Event of it. The King gave mee a good sharpe potion, but you tooke away the working of it, by the well relished Comfites ye sent after it. I have met with the Partie that must not be named, once alreddie: and the cullor of wryting this Letter shall make me meete withe her on Saturday, although it is written the Day being Thursday. So assuring you that the Busines goes safelie onn, I rest,

Your constant loving Friend,

CHARLES.

I hope ye will not show the King this Letter, but put it in the safe Custodie of Mister Vulcan.

On the Back this :

Pr. Ch. to the Duke.

Without Date.

* A Nick-name given by King James I. to the Duke of Buckingham,

Thus

Thus after *wasting*, not *employing*, a Life of Fifty odd Years, on the Tenth Day of June 1735, this Studier and Preserver of Monkish-Trumpery gave up the Ghost.

He was a most sordid poor Wretch; had an universal Mistrust of the Generality of Mankind; lived in a slovenly, niggardly Manner, and died *possessed* of what he had not the Heart to *enjoy* (*).

(*) We have been informed that a considerable Sum of Money, upwards of a Thousand Pounds was found hid in Holes and Books.





A TRUE
COPY
Of the LAST
WILL and TESTAMENT

OF

Thomas Hearne, M. A.

Extracted from the Registry of the
Prerogative Court of *Canterbury*.



IN the Name of G O D. *Amen.*
I *Thomas Hearne*, Master of
Arts, of the University of Ox-
ford, being of perfect Mind
and Memory, make and or-
dain this my last Will and Testament
(all

62 *A Copy of the last Will of*

(all written with my own Hand) in Manner and Form following, revoking all other Wills by me formerly made.

Imprimis, I commend my Soul to Almighty God who gave it me, trusting to be saved through the alone Merits of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer *Jesus Christ*; and for my Body, I commend it to the Earth, and desire that it may be buried in a Christian and Decent, but (as best becomes Dust and Ashes) in a plain humble Manner, in the Church-yard of the Parish in which I happen to die.

Item, As touching the Distribution of my Worldly Goods and Effects, I dispose of them as followeth. *First*, I give and bequeath to Mr. *William Bedford* of London, Son of my late Friend Mr. *Hilkiab Bedford*, all the MSS. and other Books, that Doctor *Thomas Smith* left me, and are standing together in a Press, with this Request, that he would punctually observe what I have written at the Beginning of some of them. Also I give and bequeath to the said Mr. *William Bedford*, all MSS of my own Collection and Writing, and all printed

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printed Books by me collated with MSS, or that have MSS Notes of mine in them.

Item, I give to the said Mr. *William Bedford*, all my other MSS, whatsoever now in my Possession.

Item, I give to the said Mr. *William Bedford*, my Box or Cabinet of Coins, Medals, and all other Things contained in it.

Item, I do hereby make, ordain, constitute, and appoint my two Brothers *William* and *Edmund Hearne*, and my Sister *Anne Hearne* (the Wife of *Thomas Field*) of *Woburn* in *Bucks*, joint Executors of this my last Will and Testament; To whom I give and bequeath all the Rest of my Goods and Effects whatsoever not herein mentioned, to be equally divided between them, Share and Share alike, desiring that they would all three lovingly agree together, and take effectual Care, that what I have given to Mr. *William Bedford* be most faithfully delivered to him, and not exposed to the View of others.

And

64 *A Copy of the last Will of*

And my Will further is, *First*, That Mr. *Bedford* would take special Care of the MSS and Books I have bequeathed to him; particularly of Dr. *Smith's*, and of those written, collated and noted by my self, so that they be all kept together, and that they fall into none but good Hands. *Secondly*, That Mr. *Bedford* would act the Part of a Supervisor or Overseer of this my last Will and Testament, and assist my Executors to the best of his Power, in which, as I rely upon his Prudence and Conduct, so at the same Time I hope they will readily follow his Advice.

In Witness of all which, I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal, this Fourteenth Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and twenty nine.

Thomas Hearne.

Signed, Sealed and Declared in the Presence of

Andrew Hanly, Sen.

Andrew Hanly, Jun.

N. B. Confirmed also by the Affidavits of *Richard Rawlinson*, L. L. D. and *James West* of the Inner Temple, Esq;

CODICIL

Mr. THOMAS HEARNE. 65

CODICIL to my WILL, dated
February 14th, 1729.

My Brother *William* being dead, I
give all his Share to his only Child, my
Nephew *Thomas Hearne*, born after the
making of the above-written Will; and
I charge my two surviving Executors,
Edmund and *Elizabeth* not to wrong him.

Thomas Hearne.

Dec. 30, 1731.

I desire no other Epitaph than this:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
THOMAS HEARNE, M. A.
WHO STUDIED AND PRESERVED
ANTIQUITIES.
HE DYED JUNE 10. M.DCC.XXXV
AGED LV YEARS.*

* This Distich would much better suit a Church-yard-
Rail, viz.

*Here lies Tom Hearne, with Dust and Dirt besprent,
In which his Life most uselessly he spent.*

F

DEUT.

66 *A Copy of the last Will of, &c.*

DEUT. xxxii. 7.

Remember the Days of old, consider the Years of many Generations: ask thy Father, and he will shew thee, thy Elders, and they will tell thee.

JOB viii. 8, 9, 10.

Enquire, I pray thee, [of the former Age, and prepare thyself to the Search of their Fathers, — (For we are but of Yesterday, and know nothing, because our Days upon Earth are a Shadow) — Shall they not teach thee, and tell thee, and utter Words out of their Heart?]

Proved at London, with a Codicil annexed, the First Day of July 1735, before the Worshipful Thomas Walker Doctor of Laws, Surrogate, by Edmund Hearne, and Anne Field (Wife of Thomas Field) the Mother and Sister, and the two surviving Executors, to whom Administration was granted, being first sworn duly to administer.

William Legard }

Peter St. Eloy }

Henry Stevens }

Deputy Registers

A

x

